

REMARKS

Applicants' agents thank very much the Examiner for the telephone interview of July 11, 2007. During the interview, we discussed the differences between the visitor based network (VBN) recited in the claims of the present application and a VLAN of Yuasa et al. (US Patent No. 6,085,238), and proposed amendments to claim 1 to clarify the differences.

As discussed during the interview, Applicants have amended claim 1 by incorporating the limitation recited in claim 9 to clarify the feature of the present invention, as suggested by the Examiner.

Independent claim 25 has been amended in the same manner as the amendment to claim 1.

Applicants have also amended independent claim 28 by incorporating the switch commander recited in claim 34 and the limitation recited in claim 9.

In view of these amendments, claims 9 and 34 have been cancelled.

Amended claim 1 now recites a method which configures a network infrastructure of a VBN to support a group of users in the VBN in response to a request from a user of the VBN, allows other users of the VBN to join the group by configuring the network infrastructure of the VBN to support joining users by configuring a switch port that a joining user is connected to with a VLAN associated with the group. These features are also recited in amended computer readable medium claim 25 and amended server claim 28.

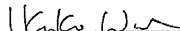
Neither Yuasa et al. (US Patent No. 6,085,238) nor Short et al. (US Publication No. 20060239254) teach or suggest such a method, medium or server.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended claims 1, 25 and 28 and their dependent claims 2-6, 10, 11, 29-32, 35, 36, 48 and 49 have been patentably distinguished over Yuasa et al. and Short et al., and are patentable under 35 USC 103.

Applicants trust that currently pending claims 1-6, 10, 11, 25, 28-32, 35, 36, 48 and 49 as amended are in condition for allowance.

Early favorable reconsideration of the application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Ikuko Wada

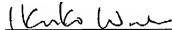
Registration No. 43,432

Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP
160 Elgin Street, Suite 2600
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1P 1C3
(613) 233-1781

July 13, 2007

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.



Ikuko Wada

July 13, 2007

Date